

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 A-01 MMO-04 PER-05 /026 W
-----125948 270218Z /23

R 260814Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8603

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP EAID
SUBJECT: REIMBURSABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

REF: STATE 129252

1. EMBASSY IS PLEASED TO CONCUR IN REFTEL'S
PROPOSAL FOR IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT AND
STAFFING OF REIMBURSABLE DEVELOPMENT POSITION IN
ECONOMIC SECTION.

2. AS DISCUSSED BETWEEN MOSER AND AMBASSADOR EASUM IN
WASHINGTON DURING RECENT U.S.-NIGERIAN BLATERAL ECONOMIC
TALKS, OFFICER FILLING THIS POSITION WOULD REPORT TO
EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR. HIS PERFORMANCE RATING
WOULD BE PREPARED BY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND BE REVIEWED
BY AMBASSADOR PRIOR TO SUBMISSION FOR REVIEW BY RDP/
WASHINGTON.

3. WE WOULD PREFER THAT RDP OFFICER NOT HAVE THE
FUNCTIONAL TITLE OF ATTACHE. BY SAME TOKEN, WE DO
NOT DESIGNATE A MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC SECTION AS
COMMERCIAL ATTACHE. EVERY MEMBER OF THESECTION
DOES COMMERCIAL WORK, JUST AS WE ENVISAGE EVERY
MEMBER DOING RDP. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THE
ECONOMIC COUNSELOR WILL LOOK TO THE RDP OFFICER
TO COORDINATE AND GUIDE ALL RDP ACTIVITY, WE DO
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NOT JUDGE IT APPROPRIATE TO UTILIZE THE FUNCTIONAL
ATTACHE TITLE. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND, HOWEVER, THAT
OFFICER BE ACCORDED DIPLOMATIC STATUS AND TITLE AS
FIRST SECRETARY SO THAT HE HAS MAXIMUM ACCESSIBILITY
TO GOVERNMENT. WE URGE THAT DEPARTMENT TAKE
APPROPRIATE STEPS TO ARRANGE THIS. IF NECESSARY,
OFFICE COULD BE GIVEN DIPLOMATIC (NOT FUNCTIONAL)

TITLE OF ATTACHE.

4. IT MUST ALSO BE REMEMBERED THAT THE EMBASSY ECONOMIC SECTION HAS BEEN SHORT STAFFED FOR SOME TIME. FOR MORE THAN A YEAR WE HAVE UNSUCCESSFULLY ENDEAVORED TO OBTAIN AN ADDITIONAL POSITION FROM STATE. OUR REQUEST HAS BEEN RECENTLY REEXAMINED AND AGAIN REJECTED. THUS THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR WILL BE OBLIGED TO SPREAD AMONG ALL SECTION MEMBERS THE INCREASING RESPONSIBILITIES BEING LEVIED ON THE SECTION. THE RDP OFFICER WOULD PRESUMABLY BE ASKED TO SHARE IN THESE ASSIGNMENTS. ONE SPECIFIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY WOULD BE MANAGEMENT OF THE MIDDLE LEVEL MAN POWER PROGRAM AND THE ECONOMIC SECTION'S TRAINING PROGRAMS, MOST OF WHICH ARE AID SPONSORED.

5. WHILE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE RDP OFFICER'S RANK IS HIS ADAPTABILITY AND VERSATILITY, WE ENVISAGE HIS OPTIMUM GRADE LEVEL AS FSR-4 OR FSR-3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW BIO AND PERFORMANCE RECORD SUMMARIES OF PROPOSED CANDIDATES.

6. BILL LYLES WELCOME AT ANY TIME. AMBASSADOR WILL BE ON VACATION WITH HIS FAMILY IN FRANCE DURING MOST OF JUNE. CHARGE WYMAN, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR
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CAHILL, AND ADMIN COUNSELOR BRENNER WILL BE PLEASED DISCUSS WITH LYLES IF HE MAINTAINS PRESENT SCHEDULE.
EASUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS06547
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780224-0021
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780515/aaaaamfg.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d1e3b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 129252
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2553299
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REIMBURSABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
TAGS: AFSP, EAID
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d1e3b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014